

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 L-03 TRSE-00 CCO-00

CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01

COME-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 EUR-25 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 DODE-00 /168 R

DRAFTED BY AF/EPS:BASTOKES:JG

APPROVED BY AF/EPS: GEORGE R. KENNEY

AID/AFR/AAA:MR.DISDIER

EB/IFD/OIA:MR.KENNEDY

EB/TT/TD:TENELSON

EB/IFD/ODF:MLINTON

IO/TRC:MR.FRIEDLAND

L/AF:MR. SPIEGEL

AID/ARA/DS:MR. SCOLL

TREAS: JOHN LANGE

----- 118975

R 132002Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 223851

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: XA, ETEL, EAID

SUBJECT: PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1. PLEASE PASS SUBSTANCE OF FOLLOWING TO AFDB PRESIDENT
LABIDI RE HIS INVITATION TO USG TO PARTICIPATE IN PAN-
AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS FUND AND ATTEND GENEVA MEETING
NOVEMBER 19 AND 20:

2. THE UNITED STATES IS PARTICIPATING THROUGH THE AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE STUDY, DESIGN AND
CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PROJECTS THAT ARE PART OF THE
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PROPOSED PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK. IN

ADDITION, AID HAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GRANT FUNDS FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES WHICH HAVE BEEN USED INTER ALIA FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECT STUDIES. SPECIFIC LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR A U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROPOSED FUND FOR PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS. IN THE LIGHT OF RECENT EXPERIENCE, DO NOT BELIEVE THAT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL COULD BE OBTAINED.

3. IN VIEW OF THE LIKELY INABILITY OF THE UNITED STATES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FUND, DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD SERVE ANY USEFUL PURPOSE FOR USG TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AND MUST THEREFORE REGRETFULLY DECLINE INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE.

4. LETTER SIGNED BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
ROBERT S. SMITH BEING POUCHED. RUSH

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